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September 24, 2024

Via Email & U.S. Mail

Scott R. Murphy
Anthony C. Sallah
Barnes & Thornburg LLP
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***Re: GLS Leasco, Inc. et al. v Navistar, Inc.
Case No. 23-cv-12927***

Scott:

I write in response to Navistar's September 20, 2024 letter with respect to the litigation hold issue. I have significant concerns that Navistar's letter was issued with the intention of manufacturing an issue for the Court where none exists. That concern is magnified given that Navistar's Vice President Sean Carmichael has already conceded Navistar's liability for breach of contract *and* the foreseeability of GLS's primary damages theory, meaning that Navistar has an incentive to create such distractions from the relevant issues.

To put it bluntly, your letter gets the facts dead wrong. GLS issued a litigation hold to Kyle Blain, Joe Hanvey, Brienne Perkins, and Nick Schmalenberg on October 9, 2023, before this litigation was filed. This information would have been apparent from Plaintiffs' forthcoming privilege log; unfortunately, Navistar has still not responded to our proposal for a deadline to exchange such a log. In the spirit of cooperation, a copy of the email with attached litigation hold (redacting everything except what would appear in a privilege log) is attached, and we will provide a redacted copy of this email with metadata intact shortly so you may confirm the same.

That should be the end of the matter. The fact that two lay witnesses did not recall when they received a litigation hold is irrelevant. They did receive the hold. And they received it before the litigation began.

I would, however, like to address another point in your letter which was presumably drafted with the Court's review in mind. Its recounting of the recent deposition testimony misleadingly omits that both Brienne Perkins and Nick Schmalenberg confirmed that their data *was* preserved and pulled despite their lack of specific memory regarding the litigation hold itself. As to Ms. Perkins, your letter also misleadingly omits that the referenced communications with Mr. Lollis—

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Navistar's agent that Navistar directed to communicate with Plaintiffs—would have dated to early 2022, well before litigation. Ms. Perkins explained that her email box was limited in size and she would routinely delete emails after a relevant transaction was completed; there is thus no legitimate concern with the fact that she deleted emails a year or more before the lawsuit was filed. And it ignores that Navistar *does* have access to Mr. Lollis' emails, as it used those emails during the depositions. You have identified nothing “missing” between the two that is conceivably relevant.

In any event, Lollis himself admitted that any information he conveyed to Plaintiffs came from Navistar's own systems. Navistar is fully aware of what it produced and when. Navistar knows when it manufactured and delivered the vehicles in question. And Navistar knows it did not manufacture or deliver those vehicles consistent with its contractual obligations, apparently choosing instead to provide them to other, more profitable customers. The odd argument that Navistar is trying to develop here—that Ms. Perkins should have known that Navistar was being dishonest about its intent to fulfill its contractual obligations around the time the April 2022 agreement was signed—has no conceivable relevance to the issues of breach and damages.

Finally, with respect to the ESI searches, Plaintiffs have identified the search terms they used to search the witnesses' electronically-preserved information. And when Navistar expressed unhappiness with those search terms, Plaintiffs re-ran the searches using Navistar's proposed search terms without modification. Nearly all your proposed search terms resulted in duplicative hits, underscoring the thoroughness of the search terms Plaintiffs initially crafted. We nonetheless provided the new documents that Navistar's own proposed search terms uncovered. The fact that Plaintiffs' production was smaller than Navistar's—a significantly larger company with many more relevant witnesses and internal communications—is a meaningless comparison. There are no document preservation issues.

Very truly yours,



Thomas J. Davis

TJD/mrb

cc: Joseph E. Viviano
Eric J. Pelton
Lauren J. Walas

543905

From: Amber Nikonowicz [/O=GOCTII EXCHANGE ORGANIZATION/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=AMBER FETT667]
Sent: 10/9/2023 8:51:39 AM
To: MJ/MT Moroun's Office [/o=GoCTII Exchange Organization/ou=First Administrative Group/cn=Recipients/cn=fiery_mail]; Kyle Blain [/o=GoCTII Exchange Organization/ou=First Administrative Group/cn=Recipients/cn=kblain]; Joe Hanvey [/o=GoCTII Exchange Organization/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=Joe Hanvey2fa]; Brianne Perkins [/o=GoCTII Exchange Organization/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=Brianne Perkins1b9]; Nick Schmalenberg [/o=GoCTII Exchange Organization/ou=First Administrative Group/cn=Recipients/cn=nschmalenberg]
CC: Kevin Kalczynski [/o=GoCTII Exchange Organization/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=Kevin Kalczynskiad6]
Subject: LITIGATION HOLD NOTICE--Navistar, Inc.
Attachments: Employees Litigation Hold Notice.pdf
Importance: High

Amber Nikonowicz

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IMMEDIATE ACTION REQUIRED**

TO: Kyle Blain, Brianne Perkins, Joe Hanvey, Nick Schmalenberg, MJ/MT
Moroun's Office

FROM: Kevin Kalczynski, Esq.

RE: Navistar, Inc. Contract Dispute

DATED: 10/5/23



